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1929 Reserve KLAMATH
NATIONAL FOREST
CALIFORNIA-OREGON

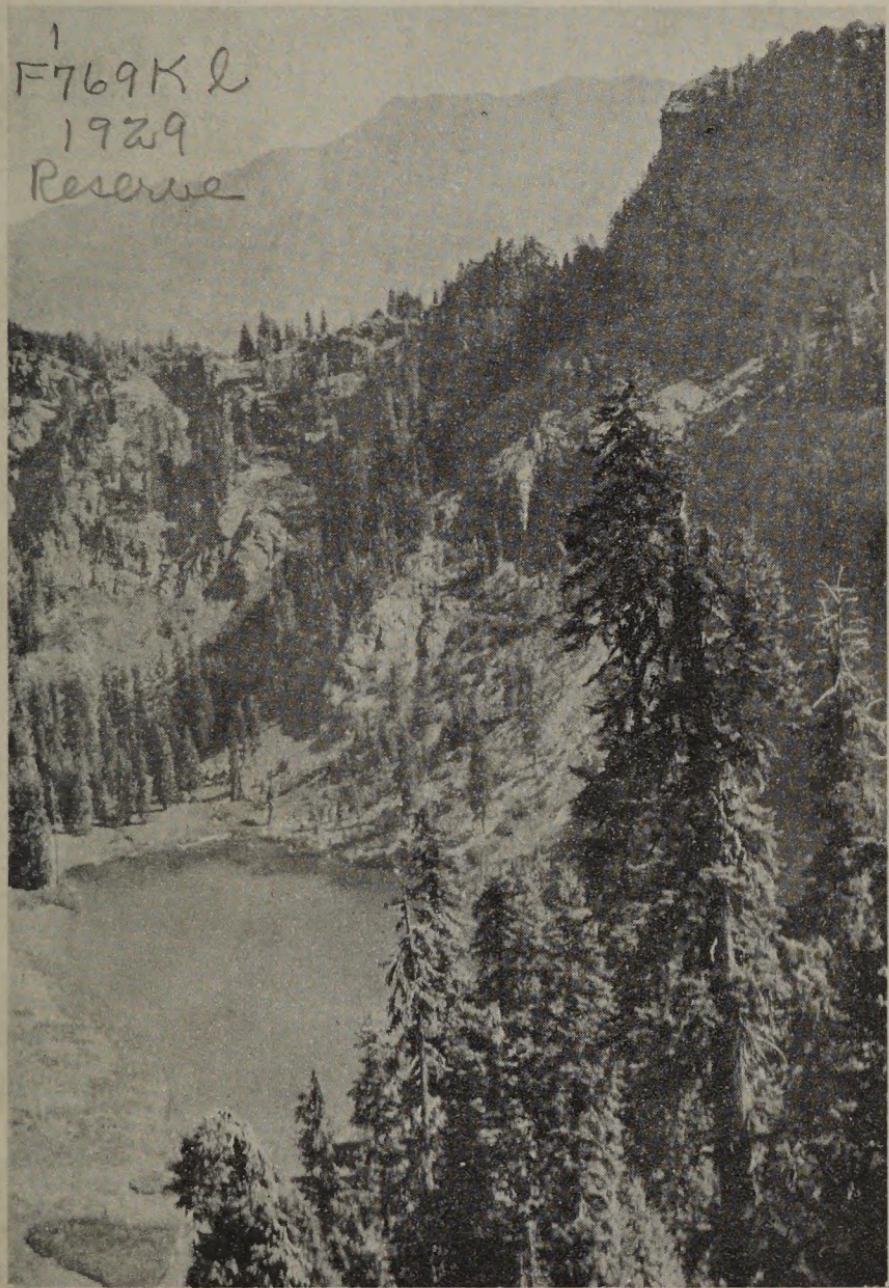


Photo by F. A. WILLIAMSON

Sky High Lake in the Marble Mountains

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U.S. FOREST SERVICE California region
CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

LIB

KLAMATH NATIONAL FOREST

CALIFORNIA-OREGON

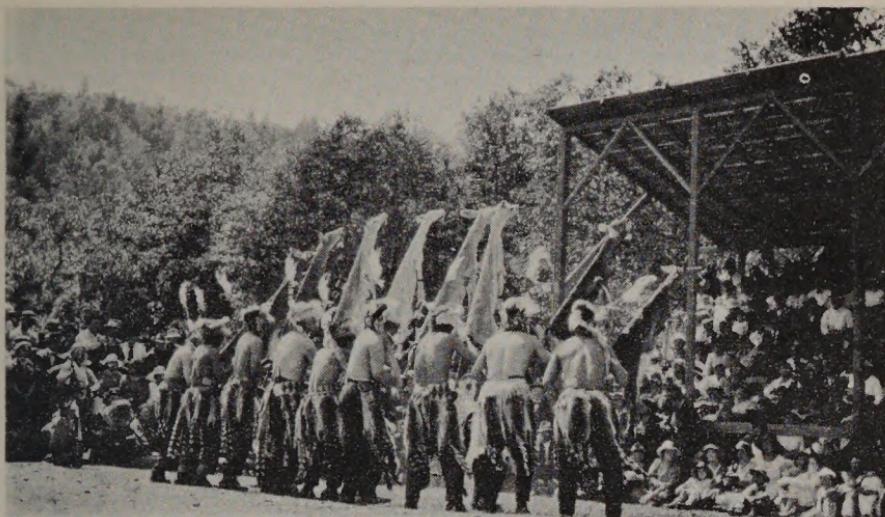
The Klamath National Forest, which takes its name from the Klamath River, the second largest stream in California, embraces 1,533,380 acres of Government land in Siskiyou, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties in California, together with a small area in Jackson County, Oregon. The main division of the forest includes portions of the Klamath, Siskiyou, Salmon, Marble, and Scott Ranges, all part of the Coast Range system. The Goose Nest district, lying to the east of the main forest division and separated from it by the Shasta Valley, takes its name from Goose Nest (Little Shasta) Mountain, an extinct volcanic cone, which, together with neighboring peaks, forms a part of the southern extension of the Cascade Range. On the southeast and south the Klamath Forest joins the Shasta and Trinity National Forests of California; on the north and northwest it is bounded by the Crater and Siskiyou National Forests of Oregon.

Probably nowhere else in California are there such large areas of absolute wilderness as in the Klamath Forest, and much of these areas will remain wilderness for many years to come despite contemplated road and trail development. The mountain ranges of this region are mainly narrow, tortuous ridges five to seven thousand feet in elevation, separated by deep canyons with steep slopes. The principal rivers of the forest are the Klamath, which drains toward the Pacific Ocean from Upper Klamath Lake in Oregon, and the Scott and Salmon Rivers, all turbulent streams flowing through mountain valleys and rugged canyons.

HISTORY

The word Klamath, which is the name of an Indian tribe that lived in southeastern Oregon near the headwaters of the Klamath River, is believed to have originated from the Lutuami term *maklaks*, meaning "people," or literally "the encamped."

The Klamath River region was originally the home of the Karok Indians of the Quoratean family. Below them on the river were the Yuroks; above them the Shastan tribes. Many descendants of these and other northern California tribes still live in this region. A few of the native Indian customs have also survived. They still have their fall festivals with the "Deerskin," "Brush," and "Coyote" dances, and stick and drum games. A particularly interesting ceremonial is that held at the Pick-aw-ish Camp Ground below Happy Camp, during the dark of the moon just preceding the new moon in August.



The "White Deerskin" dance of the Karok Indians

The white man's history of the Klamath region begins in 1845 with the trapping expedition led by Maj. Pierson B. Reading, who crossed the mountains from the Sacramento Valley and discovered the South Fork of the Klamath River. In 1849 Major Reading again returned to the region and found gold. Settlers and miners from Oregon and California moved in, and for a time the Klamath River region had a large population. In April, 1851, Klamath County was formed, but with the decline of placer mining the people moved away, the county became heavily in debt, and in 1874 it passed out of existence as a political unit and was divided between Humboldt and Siskiyou Counties.

Populous mining camps were founded in the "fifties" along the Klamath, Salmon, and Scott Rivers. Orleans, county seat of the former Klamath County; Happy Camp, supplied by pack trains operated by Chinese from Crescent City on the coast; Hamburg; Scott Bar with its famous Quartz Hill; and Sawyers Bar are but ghosts of their former glory; and such camps as Frenchtown, Deadwood, and Petersburg exist in memory only. Although with the exhaustion of the larger and more easily worked placer mines the population dwindled, the remaining inhabitants settled the limited tracts of agricultural land and combined small farming operations with mining during the winter months, prospecting, and such additional work as was available. The result is that for such a remote and inaccessible region there is a comparatively large population scattered throughout the forest.

ACCESSIBILITY

There are no railroads within the Klamath National Forest. The nearest points of connection are Yreka and Hornbrook, on the Southern Pacific Railroad a few miles east of the forest boundary, and Eureka, on the Northwestern Pacific Railroad, 88 miles by road from Weitchpec, near the western boundary.

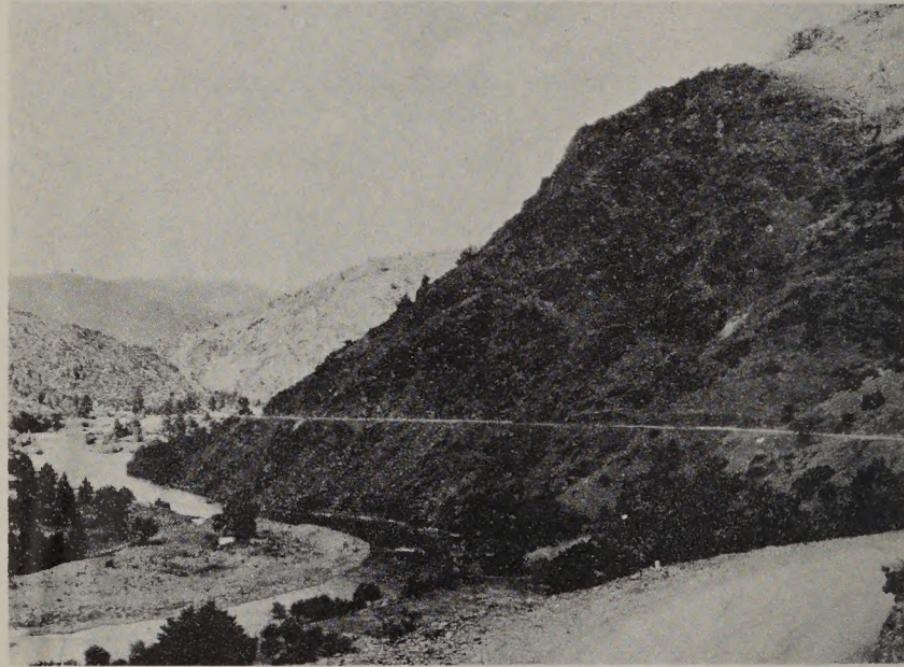
During the summer season daily stages are available from Yreka to Happy Camp, Yreka to Etna via Fort Jones,

Hornbrook to Happy Camp, Gazelle to Etna via Callahan, Etna to Orleans via the Salmon River Canyon through Sawyers Bar and Forks of Salmon.

Triweekly stages operate from Yreka to Scott Bar via Fort Jones and the Scott River Canyon, Yreka to Walker via Humbug, Happy Camp to Orleans, Eureka to Orleans via Orick and Redwood Mountain. A stage company also holds a franchise for triweekly trips between Eureka and Orleans via Hoopa Valley. If this were operated regularly there would be daily service between Eureka and Orleans. All these stage lines operate during the winter, but some of the schedules depend upon weather and road conditions.

The central portion of the Klamath Forest can be reached by three main roads, the Klamath River Highway, the Salmon River Road, and the Scott River Road. These are for the most part mountain roads, comparatively narrow, but provided with turnouts, and with some heavy grades. They are safe for experienced drivers who have cars with brakes in good condition and who drive at reasonable speed.

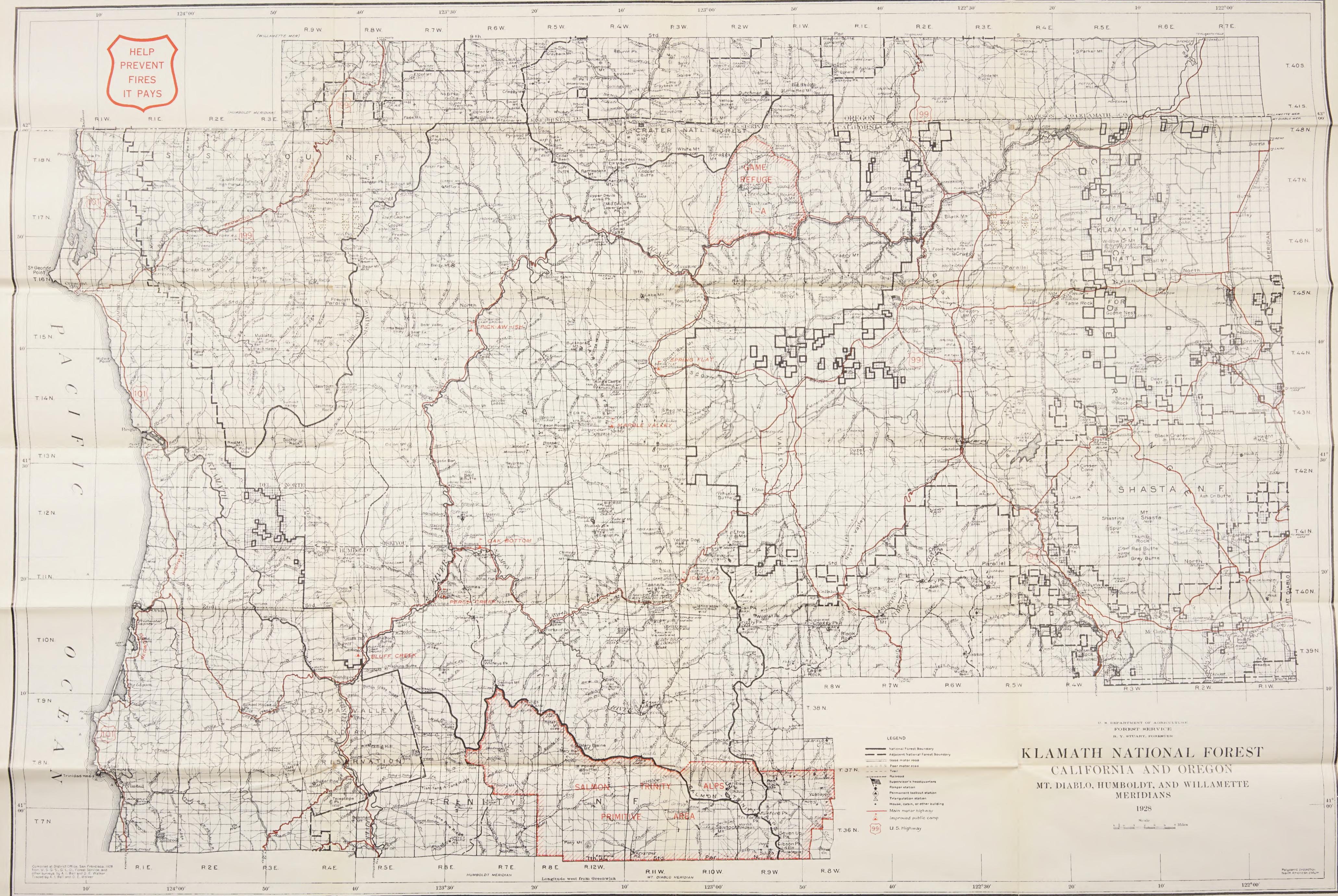
Klamath River Highway.—Connects the Pacific Highway with the Redwood Highway. It leaves the Pacific Highway at the junction of the Shasta and Klamath Rivers and traverses the scenic Klamath River Canyon to Martins Ferry Bridge. The road is a State highway for this distance and is yearly being improved, but is rough and narrow in places and requires careful driving. A county road runs from Martins Ferry over Redwood Mountain to Orick on the coast, where it connects with the Redwood Highway.



The Klamath River Highway between the Pacific Highway and Walker. The Forest Service, in cooperation with the State and counties, has spent 1½ million dollars in opening up a highway down the Klamath

Smoking is prohibited in the Klamath National Forest during the dangerous fire season, except in camps or at places of habitation. Watch for "No Smoking" signs.

HELP
PREVENT
FIRES
IT PAYS



Salmon River Road.—From Etna in Scott Valley to Somes Bar on Klamath River Highway. The road crosses the summit of Salmon Mountain, from which there is an excellent view of Scott Valley and the Salmon River country, and continues down the North Fork of Salmon River via Finley Camp and Sawyers Bar to the Forks of Salmon, and from there down the rugged Salmon River Canyon to Somes Bar on the Klamath River Highway. At Sawyers Bar a branch Forest Service road runs to Cecilville and the East Fork of Salmon River. Etna, the starting point of the Salmon River Road, may be reached from the Pacific Highway over good county roads from Gazelle via Callahan, or Yreka via Fort Jones.

Scott River Road.—From Fort Jones in Scott Valley down the timbered, scenic canyon of Scott River, past Scott Bar, ghost town of the mining days, to the Klamath River Highway, 2 miles from Hamburg.

The Goose Nest district of the Klamath Forest can be reached from the Weed-Klamath Falls Road in Butte Valley, from the Ball Mountain Road from Montague to Butte Valley, and from Yreka or Montague via Ager, Copco Reservoir, and Klamath Hot Springs.

Numerous side roads in the forest are available to tourists who desire to get away from the main routes of travel, but inquiry should be made relative to their condition before attempting any trips.

CLIMATE

Climatic conditions in the Klamath National Forest are usually excellent from June to October. Along the rivers and in the mountain canyons the days are often hot, but the nights are always cool. On the higher summits the climate is delightful, with bright, sunny days and cool nights. Occasional summer thundershowers occur over most of the forest, but are usually of short duration.

RESOURCES

Timber

The Klamath National Forest contains $12\frac{1}{2}$ billion feet of Government timber. Fully 40 per cent of this stand is sugar pine and western yellow pine and the remainder mostly Douglas fir in mixture with miscellaneous species. Privately owned timber intermingled with the Government stumps is estimated at about 3 billion feet.

Get the "fire bug"! The Forest Service will pay \$100 to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons on the charge of willfully and maliciously setting on fire any timber, underbrush, or grass on national-forest lands.



F-200088

The virgin pine and fir stands of the Klamath National Forest constitute a reserve supply of $12\frac{1}{2}$ billion feet, which will some day be cut to supply California's growing timber needs

About a dozen small sawmills supply the local demand for timber in the more remote areas. There is only one large mill at present in the Klamath Forest, which cuts Government and privately owned stumpage. The rough topography of the country makes logging difficult and railroad construction expensive, and the high percentage of Douglas fir in the forest precludes the development of logging operations on a large scale in the near future. The timber stand of the Klamath therefore constitutes a reserve supply which will be cut when economic conditions warrant. The policy of the Forest Service will be to aid in establishing a permanent sawmill industry in the region by selling Government stumpage when this time arrives.

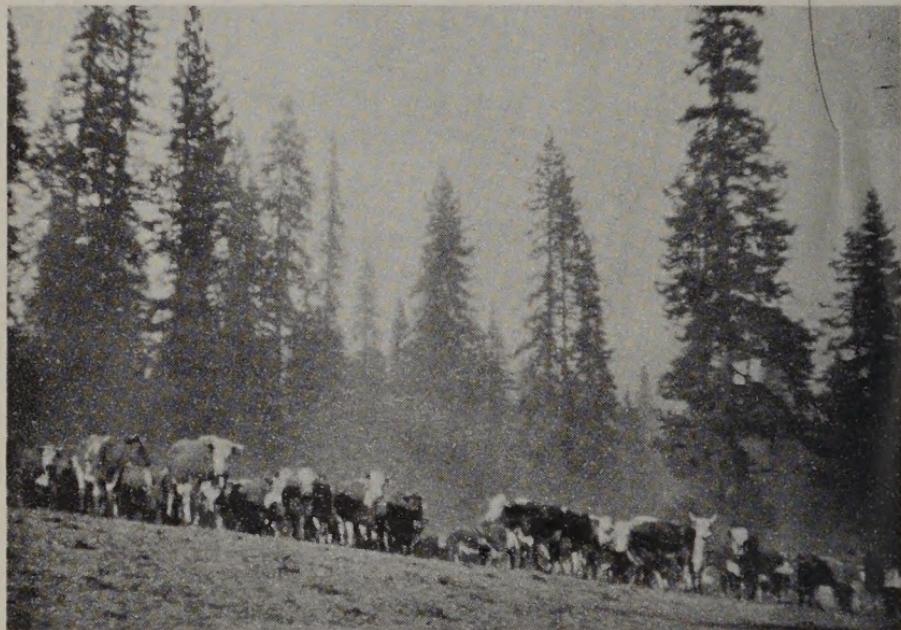
It is estimated by foresters that the annual cut of timber on the Klamath National Forest, on a sustained-yield basis, could be safely placed at 125 million feet board measure. This would mean the ultimate continuous operation of one or two large sawmills, or several small mills and a pulp and paper plant. It is because of the potential value of the

present stand of timber and the possibility of a future permanent manufacturing industry that the Forest Service spends large sums in the development and protection of this valuable timber resource.

National-forest timber sales are handled under approved forestry methods, with the idea of keeping the land in continuous timber production. Mature, decadent, diseased, and deformed trees are removed and a reserve stand of trees is left to provide the basis for a future harvest and to insure seed trees that will restock the ground with young growth. All trees to be cut are marked by an experienced Forest Service officer and logging methods are controlled in order to prevent damage to the young growth on the area. Slash and débris resulting from the logging operations are piled and burned in winter as a precaution against destructive forest fires.

Grazing

It is the policy of the Forest Service to manage forage-producing lands in such manner that they will be continuously productive, and to distribute the grazing privileges equitably among the users of dependent agricultural lands; in short, to perpetuate the local livestock industry through proper care and improvement of grazing lands. Local settlers and stockmen are given the preference in the use of the range. The number of animals, the season of grazing, the



The Klamath Forest annually furnishes forage sufficient to feed more than 10,000 head of cattle

class of stock, the area to be grazed, and detailed rules for herding, salting, bedding, etc., are determined by the Forest Service with the purpose of attaining the best possible utilization of the forage resources. The judicious management of the forest range must continue in harmony with the desired protection and development of all other resources of the forest. Forage and grazing allotments are also regulated so that there may be sufficient feed for deer within the State game refuge in the forest.

Approximately 35 per cent of the Klamath National Forest, or about 567,000 acres, has been classified as valuable for the grazing of domestic stock, and there is sufficient forage produced on such land to provide feed for 10,850 cattle and 10,000 sheep during the summer season. The mountain pastures used for grazing are a very necessary adjunct to the hay-producing agricultural lands of Scott and Shasta Valleys, and to the small ranches inside the forest.

Mining

A belt of highly mineralized slates, schists, porphyries, and serpentine extends across the Klamath National Forest from the Salmon River country north to the Oregon line. Since the discovery of gold in this region, approximately \$150,000,000 has been taken from this mineral belt. The three principal rivers and some of their tributaries have long been noted as big placer gold producers, 60 per cent of the gold production coming from gravel mines. Even to-day there are several large hydraulic mines and numerous small placers in operation during the winter months. A few quartz gold mines are in production and considerable development work is going on, with indications of increased future activity. Pocket mining is carried on by many prospectors, with varying success. There are large proven deposits of copper in the vicinity of Happy Camp.

The development of stable and bona fide mining operations is encouraged by the Forest Service. Mineral deposits within national forests are open to development exactly as on unreserved public land. A prospector can go anywhere he chooses and stake a claim wherever he finds any evidence of valuable minerals. The only restriction is that mining claims must be bona fide and not taken up for the purpose of acquiring valuable timber, or for a summer home, or town or power site, or to monopolize the water supply on stock range. Bona fide mining men do not wish to take up claims for an unlawful purpose, and the national forests are open to them at all times. Prospectors may obtain a certain amount of national-forest timber free of charge to be used in developing their claims, and in other ways the Forest Service gives the mining man all the help it can.

Water

The Klamath, with its abundance of large rivers, mountain streams, and lakes, is one of the best watered national forests in California. The principal use now made of the water from the forest is for mining operations, for the irrigation of agricultural lands inside the forest and the

Be a real sportsman. There is more honor in giving the game a square deal than in getting the limit.

extensive ranches in the Scott Valley, and for domestic and municipal water supply. The Klamath River is the potential source of abundant hydroelectric power, but at present the only power development is east of the Shasta River, State laws prohibiting the building of high dams on the Klamath between the Shasta River and the Pacific Ocean.

RECEIPTS

Twenty-five per cent of the funds received by the Federal Government from the sale or use of national-forest timber, forage, water, and recreational resources is returned to the State, in lieu of taxes for schools and roads in the counties in which the forests are located. During the past nine years Siskiyou County has received an average of \$15,209 annually from this source. In addition, 10 per cent of the receipts is expended each year by the Forest Service for roads and trails. The Government, in cooperation with the State and county, has also spent over \$1,250,000 in the construction and improvement of the Klamath River Highway, and an additional \$350,000 on the Salmon River Road.



F-30597A

On the way to mountain pastures. Ten thousand sheep graze each year in the Klamath Forest

RECREATION

The Klamath National Forest offers many opportunities for those who desire a vacation trip into a real wilderness country. The main roads lead to many beautiful scenic areas and noted camping and fishing grounds, but a real "wilderness" trip can be made only with saddle horse and pack outfit. The trail system of the forest totals 2,000 miles and makes it possible to reach the most attractive areas in from one to two days' travel on horseback.

Automobile Tours

Free camping places are available for the automobile traveler along the main roads and side roads of the Klamath Forest. Forest Service camp grounds with sanitary facilities are located at Spring Flat on the Scott River Road, near Clear Creek, Pearch Creek, and Bluff Creek on the Klamath River Highway, and at Finley Camp on the Sawyers Bar Road. Free and "pay" camping privileges are obtainable at private camp grounds at or near the various towns and service stations, and from owners of ranches. Meals and lodging can be secured at hotels or resorts along the main roads and at some of the ranches, and there are numerous gasoline stations and grocery stores. It is also possible during the summer season to secure fresh vegetables, fruit, eggs, and milk at many of the small ranches along the roads.

From the Pacific Highway at Gazelle an interesting side trip can be made over Scott Mountain through Scott Valley and Callahan, and back over Yreka Mountain to the highway near Yreka.

From Yreka it is only a day's drive of 94 miles from the Pacific Highway at the bridge near the junction of the Klamath and Shasta Rivers, 11 miles north of Yreka, over the Klamath River Highway to the mouth of Scott River, then to the left up the picturesque Scott River Canyon to Fort Jones, and thence over Yreka Mountain back to the Pacific Highway a short distance south of Yreka.

Two days will allow time for the tourist on the Pacific Highway to go down the Klamath River to Orleans, where good hotel accommodations are available, returning to Yreka the second day by way of the Salmon River Road and Scott Valley, a total distance of 215 miles. From Orleans, if desired, the trip can be continued the second day via Martins Ferry and Orick to Eureka, distance 104 miles, thence south on the Redwood Highway.

Pack Trips

The Marble Mountain region, encircled by the Scott, Salmon, and Klamath Rivers, is one of the most attractive recreation areas in the Klamath National Forest, and one of the few remaining real wilderness areas in California. This is a limestone region with gray "marble" peaks, dense forests of pine and fir, numerous lakes well stocked with trout, and mountain valleys, which are a riot of color in August when the wild flowers are in bloom. It is the native haunt of black and brown bear in the summer and of deer

Automobile and pack-train parties camping in the Klamath National Forest must be equipped with a shovel and ax suitable for fire-fighting purposes.

in the fall. Red Mountain, 8,317 feet, is the highest peak in this region, with Black Marble, 7,451 feet, and Kings Castle (Marble Mountain), 7,396 feet, prominent landmarks on the main divide.

The Marble Mountain country is accessible by good Forest Service trails from Scott Valley via Shackleford Creek; Scott River via Canyon and Kelsey Creeks; Scott Bar and Hamburg via Lake Mountain; Seiad Valley via Grider Creek; Happy Camp via Elk Creek; Somes Bar via Haypress Meadows or Wooley Creek; and from points along the Salmon River via North Fork, Little North Fork, etc.

Cinnabar Springs and other points along the summit of the Siskiyous. A region of excellent hunting and fishing. Reached from Walker, Beaver Creek, and Gottville on the Klamath River.

Red Buttes and Devils Peak country on the Siskiyou summit, noted for its fine fishing and deer and bear hunting. Reached from Seiad Valley via Seiad Creek.

Preston Peak, the highest point in the western part of the Klamath Forest, and Clear Creek, a rugged canyon with deep pools well stocked with fish. Close by is El Capitan Peak, with Youngs Valley at its base. Reached from Happy Camp via Indian or Clear Creeks.

Bluff and Blue Creeks, in the southwest corner of the forest and north of the Klamath River. An out-of-the-way region on the edge of the fog belt, from which in clear weather can be had a fine view of the coastal redwood forests and the distant Pacific Ocean. Reached from Orleans by Bluff Creek Trail.

SALMON-TRINITY ALPS PRIMITIVE AREA

To insure the preservation in their primitive state of typical mountain and forest areas in California noted for their scenic and recreational values, the Forest Service has set apart tracts of national-forest land as primitive areas for the use and enjoyment of all the people. The Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area, which includes 130,920 acres in the southeastern corner of the Klamath Forest, at the headwaters of the South Fork of Salmon River, together with portions of the adjoining Shasta and Trinity National Forests, contains some of the wildest and roughest country in the State. Here is Thompson Peak, 8,936 feet, one of the topographic wonders of northern California, and a confused mass of sawtooth summits, deep canyons, glaciers, and emerald lakes. This Primitive Area is accessible from the north by a road from Sawyers Bar on the Salmon River to Cecilville, thence by Government trail, or by trail from Forks of Salmon via Knownothing or Nordheimer Creeks.

Make sure it's a buck—if you can't see his horns, she hasn't any.



**“Tis distance lends enchantment to the view
And robes the mountains with its azure hue”**

Fishing

The Klamath River, famous for its fall run of salmon and steelhead trout, which attracts fishermen from all parts of the United States, is one of the finest fishing streams on the Pacific coast. Most of the salmon cultural operations of the Division of Fish and Game, State Department of Natural Resources, are now centered on the Klamath River, one of the few remaining streams in California with a good run of salmon.

The king salmon, which comes from the Pacific into the Klamath and its tributaries to spawn, arrives first, closely followed by the steelhead, the run reaching Orleans about the middle of August and the Shasta River a month or so later. This fishing is available to the motorist, as the main roads following along the river valleys are in close proximity to good fishing waters. Both salmon and steelhead may be taken on a spinner. Steelhead will also rise readily to a fly. Fishing on the Klamath is comparable to fishing on a large lake—that is, fishing is either good or poor, depending on the weather, water conditions, and the run of fish. A trip of several days' duration should therefore be planned.

As a game fish the steelhead is a favorite with anglers, because of both its large size and its fighting qualities. The fish average 1 to 5 pounds in weight, the largest recorded steelhead ever caught in the Klamath River weighing 16 pounds.

In California the term “steelhead” is commonly used to designate a trout that has come into a river from the sea. Some ichthyologists consider the steelhead a species entirely distinct from the rainbow trout, which it closely resembles. Prof. John O. Snyder, head of the Zoology Department, Stanford University, states that from a careful examination he is convinced that the coarse-scaled steelhead and the rainbow trout are identical. According to Professor Snyder, the sea-run trout in the streams of the northern part of

California belong to two species. By far the larger number is *Salmo irideus*, but among these may occasionally be seen an example of the cutthroat trout *Salmo clarkii* (Richardson), so that one may speak with propriety of rainbow-steelheads and cutthroat-steelheads, the latter being distinguished by their smaller scales.

Commercial fishermen distinguish between salmon and trout by noting whether the fish is easily held up by the tail. The constricted portion in front of the tail (*caudal peduncle*) makes it easy to hold a salmon by the tail, but that of a trout is so nearly the size of the tail fin that the fish is held up with difficulty. The salmon also has a blackish mouth inside, while the steelhead's mouth is white.

Rainbow, eastern brook, and other trout abound in practically all of the smaller streams and mountain lakes of the Klamath Forest, which are regularly stocked by the State Division of Fish and Game in cooperation with the Forest Service and local sporting clubs and private individuals. These waters furnish excellent fishing during the summer months, but a pack trip is necessary to reach the best fishing grounds.

HUNTING

Columbian black-tail deer are found over the entire Klamath Forest, being especially plentiful in the more remote areas. It is usually necessary to secure the services of



Camera hunting on the Klamath National Forest. Sportsmen are finding it a greater thrill to "shoot" with a camera instead of a gun

a guide and pack outfit in order to reach the best hunting grounds, although many deer are killed each year within a short distance of camping places along roads. Good bear hunting is available in the fall months and some of the regular guides keep dogs for this sport. Mountain lions are numerous, but an experienced guide with trained dogs is necessary for a successful hunt.

For the tourist who does not care to hunt but does enjoy viewing deer, a trip to the Parker Ranch near Callahan is well worth while. Hunting or the shooting of firearms is strictly prohibited on this ranch, where the deer have been protected and fed for many years and are very numerous and tame during all seasons of the year.

GAME REFUGES

As a breeding ground for deer and other wild life of the Klamath Forest the State has established Game Refuge 1A in the region north of the Klamath River, from Beaver Creek to Horse Creek and Buckhorn Creek and extending northward to the Siskiyou summit. All hunting in this refuge is prohibited.

GUIDES AND PACKERS

Experienced guides and packers with saddle and pack stock are available at numerous points in the Klamath Forest. These men are equipped to take visitors for any length trip into the back country. During the hunting season, parties desiring to make pack trips should arrange well in advance for the services they may require. A list of guides and packers may be obtained from the forest supervisor at Yreka.

SUMMER HOMES

There are numerous areas suited for summer-home purposes within the Klamath National Forest. Sites on Government land are available under special-use permit, at an annual rental of from \$15 to \$25, near Bluff Creek, Somes Bar, Finley Camp, and Spring Flat. For particulars inquire at the nearest district ranger station or at the office of the forest supervisor at Yreka.

FIRE PREVENTION

One of the chief duties of Forest Service officers is to protect the resources of the national forests from damage and destruction by fire. In a region of rough topography, such as the Klamath, where the road and trail systems are still incomplete and some territory inaccessible, this task is a difficult one unless both local inhabitants and travelers cooperate in helping to reduce the fire danger.

For the protection of the Klamath National Forest the Government has constructed 700 miles of trails and 45 miles of roads, and has maintained many miles of existing roads

Leave a clean camp and a clean record. Garbage, crippled game, and broken laws are poor monuments for tourists and sportsmen to leave behind them.



Photo by J. A. WIBORN

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The glory of the forest—heritage of our fathers

and trails. Telephone lines, totaling over 450 miles, connect seven fire lookout stations on prominent peaks with the district ranger headquarters and the supervisor's office in Yreka. During the dangerous fire months 35 extra men are employed as fire guards to help the regular forest force control fires quickly and efficiently.

The fire hazard on the Klamath National Forest comes largely from two sources; lightning storms, which often occur in remote and inaccessible mountain areas accompanied by little or no rain, and incendiarism on the part of a few individuals among the local population who are actuated by selfish or malicious motives.

There is no way by which man can prevent lightning fires, and the best that can be done is to have the fire lookouts keep a close watch for them, and then to send crews of men to put them out before they cover a large area. The incendiary problem, however, is not a fire hunt but a man hunt; not fire, but the owner of the hand that lights it, is the public's enemy. By his acts the incendiary not only violates the law but destroys valuable resources that are vitally necessary to the prosperity of the country; he kills the game animals and birds of the forests; and drives away motorists, campers, and sportsmen who contribute to the business of the community. Every incendiary fire that has to be fought also means just that much less money for roads and trails and other needed improvements. The hand of the incendiary is set against the public welfare and it is the



Photo by J. A. WIBORN

F-215245

Desolation wrought by fire—bequest to our children

duty of every citizen to help apprehend those who willfully set fires and to see that they are punished as they justly deserve.

Fires started by motorists, campers, fishermen, and hunters are not the most serious problem of forest protection on the Klamath, but as the recreational use of the forest increases it will be necessary that these visitors take every precaution to prevent fires from starting.

A camp-fire permit must be obtained before any outdoor fire, including fire in stoves burning gasoline, kerosene, or wood, can be started in the Klamath National Forest. Each automobile or pack-train party camping in the Federal forest must be equipped with a shovel and ax suitable for fire-fighting purposes. During the dangerous fire season no smoking is permitted in the forest, except in camps or at places of habitation.

Incendiary outbreaks may result at any time in the closing by the Forest Service of special areas or the entire Klamath National Forest to all forms of public use and travel.

**Fish and game depend on green forests and flowing streams.
Both are destroyed by fire.**

THE "LIGHT-BURNING" FALLACY

The fire-protection policy of the Forest Service seeks to prevent fires from starting and to suppress quickly those that may start. This established policy is criticized by those who hold that the deliberate and repeated burning of forest lands offers the best method of protecting those lands from the devastation of summer fires. Because prior to the inauguration of systematic protection California timberlands were repeatedly burned over without the complete destruction of the forest, many people have reached the untenable conclusion that the methods of Indian days are the best that can be devised for the present. It is commonly assumed in this argument that controlled burning of the forests, either in the spring or fall, is an easy practice which can be carried out at slight expense, with negligible damage to the forest itself, and with complete or nearly complete removal of the accumulated débris which inevitably forms in any growing forest.

It has been found, however, that actually to carry out controlled burning in our diversified mountain topography is an exceedingly difficult and costly practice. If the fires are really "controlled," experience shows that it costs not less than 35 cents per acre each time the forest is burned over and may cost as much as \$1, and since this must be done every few years, the cost over a period of years soon becomes prohibitive for any but the holder of a very small parcel of land. Again, while in theory it is simple to select the proper time of year for burning, in practice it has been extremely difficult to find a time when conditions are such that fires will start without developing into devastating conflagrations with all the characteristics of the summer fires which the practice seeks to prevent.

Even very light fires properly controlled cause serious damage to the forest. The young trees particularly are killed, and even the largest and most valuable veterans are not immune to death from these creeping fires. It has been found that, even when properly controlled, such fires cause a loss of value amounting to several dollars an acre each time they run through the forest.

The most serious results of repeated burning of the forests is that the gradual destruction of the forest trees leads to the invasion of the land by worthless brush, and this not only makes the reestablishment of the forest difficult but makes the control of fires infinitely harder and more costly than if a full stand of timber is maintained.

Throwing away lighted matches or tobacco, or other burning material, from an automobile or other moving vehicle is prohibited by State law.



Photo by J. A. WIBORN

Barkhouse Creek fire, June, 1926, Klamath National Forest

The stock argument of those who advocate the "light burning" of forests is that fire exclusion ultimately leads to the building up of supplies of inflammable material to such an extent that the uncontrollable and completely destroying fire is certain to occur. The experience of the Forest Service in California, after 15 years or more of fire fighting, does not lead to any such conclusion. Large and destructive fires have occurred, particularly in very dry years, but none of these fires approach in size or destructiveness some of the conflagrations that occurred on light-burned grounds in the days when the control of fires in the forest was nobody's business. Records show that these early-day fires burned for months unchecked and covered entire major watersheds in the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range. The presence of nearly two million acres of brush now occupying lands which formerly supported a merchantable forest is eloquent proof of the fact that such fires were just as destructive as are the fires of to-day.

The existing policy of the Forest Service in fire prevention and suppression has not been reached on the basis of

guesswork. It represents continuous and critical study of forest fires. Fire exclusion is the only practical principle on which our forests can be handled, if we are to protect what we have and to insure new and more fully stocked forests for the future.

ADMINISTRATION

National forests are administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The Klamath is one of the 18 national forests of the California District with headquarters in San Francisco. The headquarters of the forest supervisor of the Klamath National Forest is located in the Masonic Building at Yreka, Calif. The forest is divided into 6 ranger districts, each with a district ranger in charge. District rangers headquarters are at Yreka, Walker, Scott Bar, Happy Camp, Orleans, and Sawyers Bar.

All forest officers will be glad to give information relative to forest resources and camping, hunting, and fishing conditions and be of such assistance to travelers as their regular duties will permit.

MILEAGE TABLE

Klamath River Highway

From Klamath River Bridge, on Pacific Highway, at junction of Klamath and Shasta Rivers

	Miles		Miles
Browns Resort.....	15. 9	Somes Bar.....	106. 6
Oak Bar.....	23. 9	Orleans.....	115. 0
Scott River Bridge.....	33. 0	Weitchpec.....	132. 2
Hamburg.....	35. 3	Martins Ferry.....	135. 7
Seiad Valley.....	45. 1	Redwood Highway near	
Thompson Creek.....	53. 1	Orick.....	168. 4
Happy Camp.....	64. 9	Eureka.....	215. 4

Salmon River Road

From Pacific Highway near Yreka

	Miles		Miles
Fort Jones.....	15. 9	Etna.....	28. 1

From Pacific Highway at Gazelle

Callahan.....	27. 3	Etna.....	41. 2
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From Etna

Salmon Mountain Summit.....	10. 0	Sawyers Bar.....	25. 2
Finley Camp.....	19. 4	Forks of Salmon.....	41. 4

From Sawyers Bar

	Miles
Cecilville.....	23. 0

Scott River Road

Pacific Highway near Yreka

	Miles		Miles
Fort Jones.....	15. 9	Scott Bar.....	44. 8
Spring Flat.....	17. 0	Scott River Bridge on	
Kleavers Ranch.....	36. 0	Klamath Highway.....	47. 4

GOOD MANNERS IN THE FOREST

A Good Sportsman, Camper, or Tourist, when he goes into the National Forests—

First obtains a camp-fire permit.

Carries a shovel and ax.

Smokes only in camp.

Puts his fire dead out with water.

Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.

Observes the State fish and game laws.

Cooperates with forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires.

Preaches what he practices.

DO YOU?

Six Rules for Preventing Fire in the Forest

1. **Matches.**—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
2. **Tobacco.**—Be sure that pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead before throwing them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.
3. **Making camp.**—Before building a fire scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your camp fire. Keep your fire small. Never build it against trees or logs or near brush.
4. **Breaking camp.**—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out.
5. **Brush burning.**—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.
6. **How to put out a camp fire.**—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. If you can't get water, stir in earth and tread it down until packed tight over and around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.



F-30930

Brush field caused by forest fire, showing snags of former stand of timber and young timber starting again in the brush

THE resources of the Klamath National Forest are for your use and enjoyment—help protect them from damage and destruction by fire.



Camp-fire permits are required in all national forests in California. Issued free by U. S. Forest Service officers, State forest rangers, automobile clubs, and other authorized agents.

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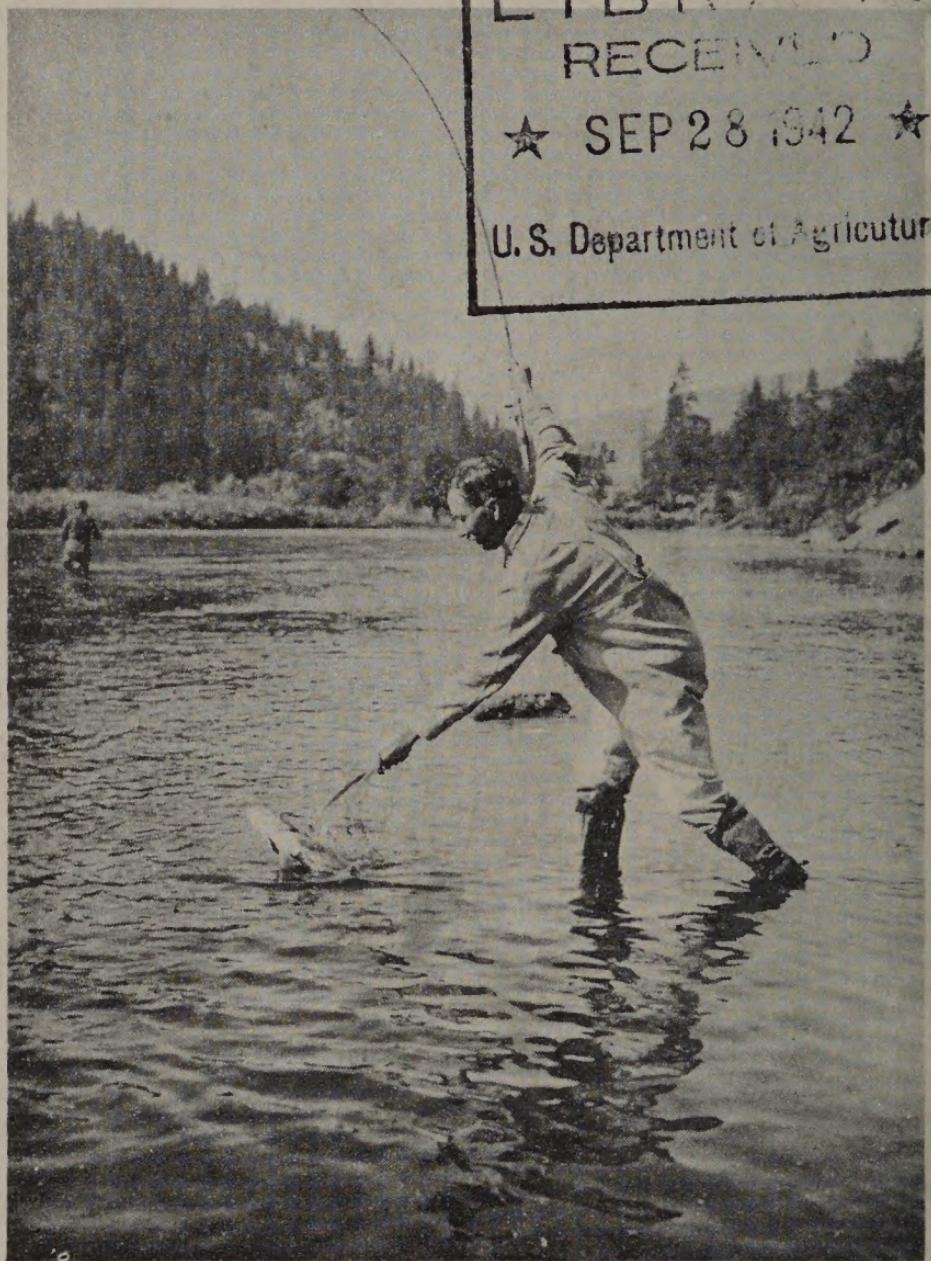


Photo by J. A. WIBORN
Landing a steelhead trout, Klamath River

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

ISSUED -----, 1929